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SPACE GHOST™ JONNY QUEST™

SPACE QUEST

JOE CASEY
WRITER

SEBASTIÁN PÍRIZ
ARTIST

LORENZO SCARAMELLA
COLORIST

TAYLOR ESPOSITO
LETTERER

MARK SPEARS
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MATT IDELSON
EDITOR SPECIAL THANKS

TO JOSH ANDERSON, VICTORIA SELOVER AND MEGAN LOGAN

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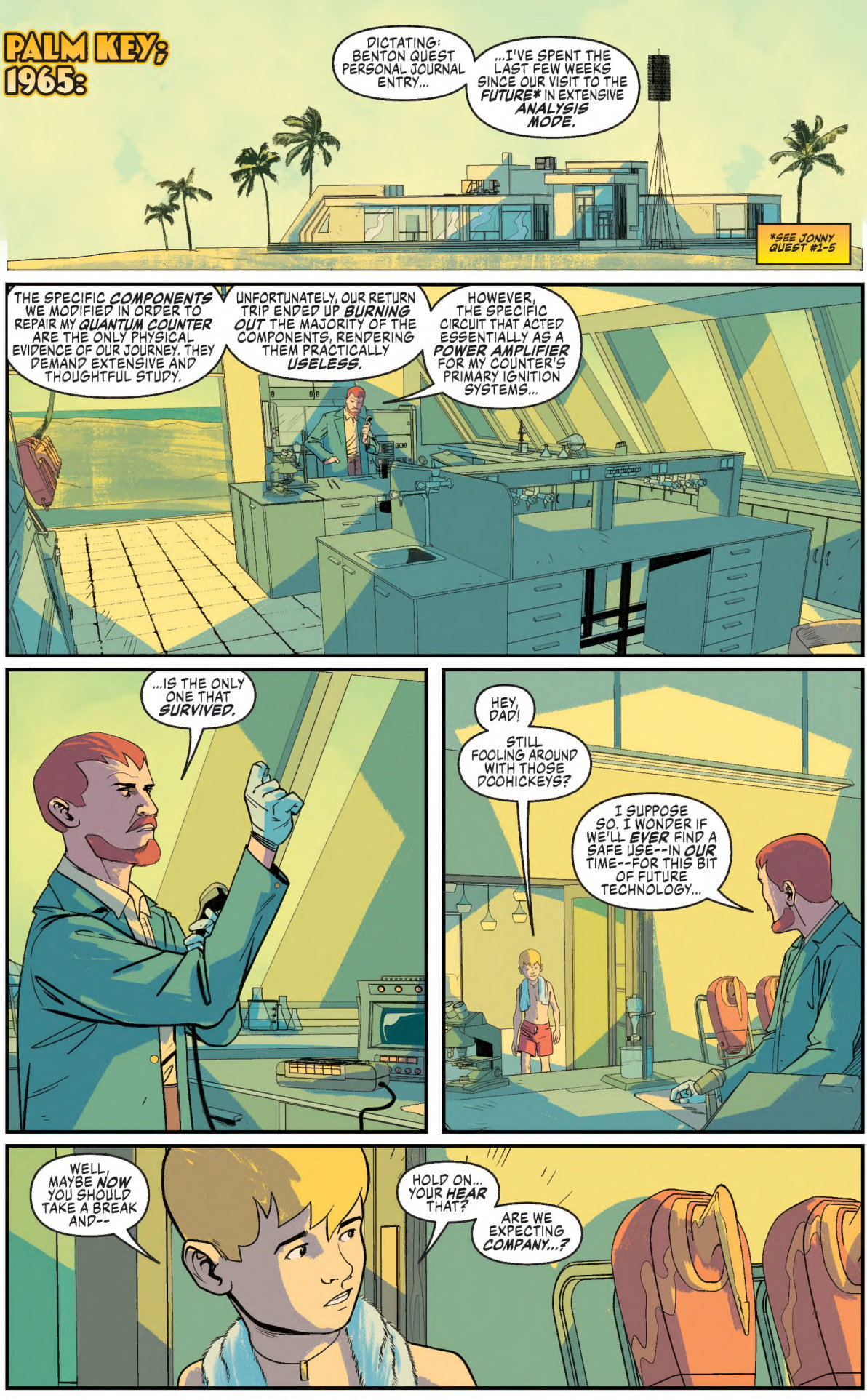
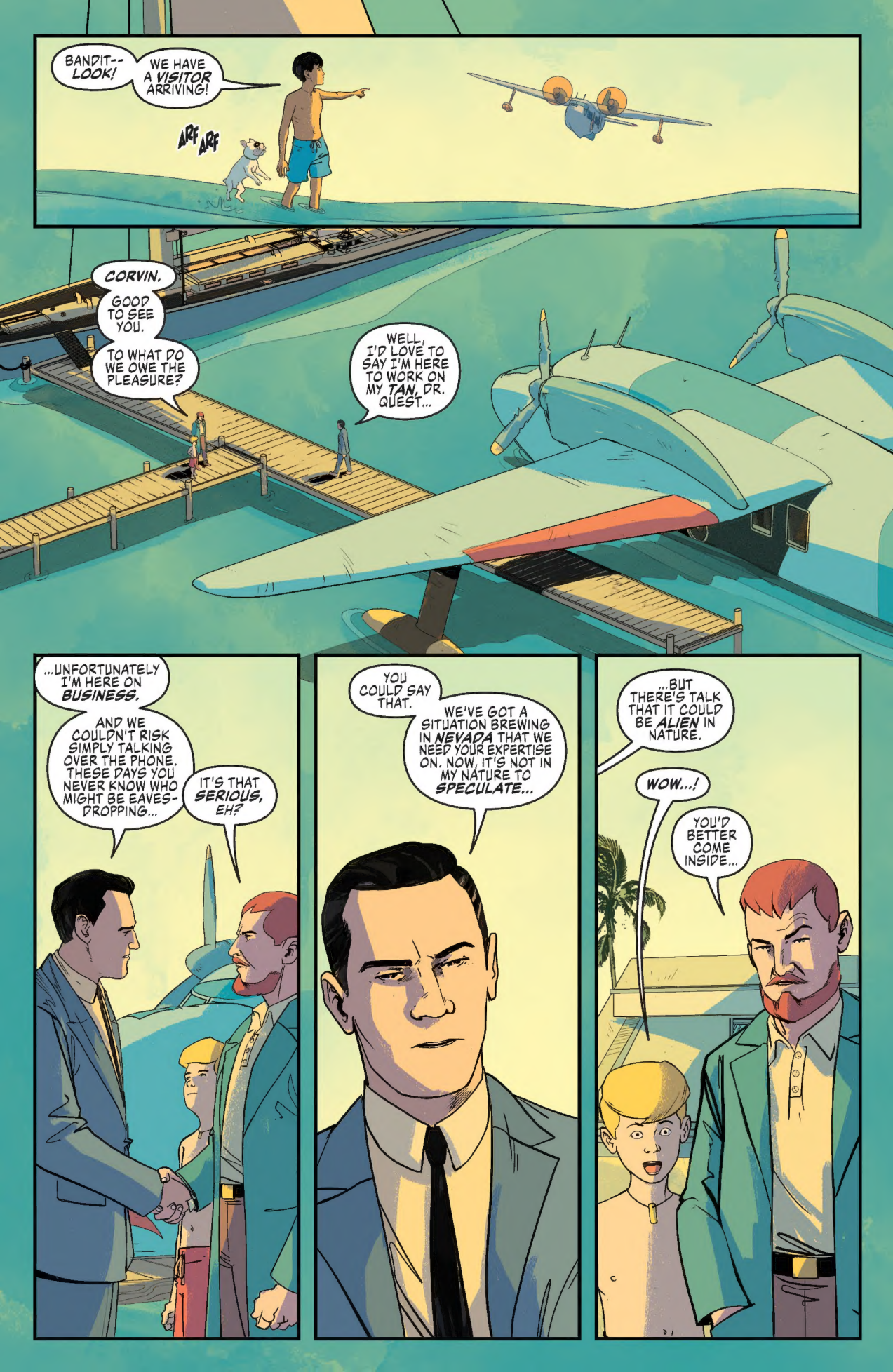
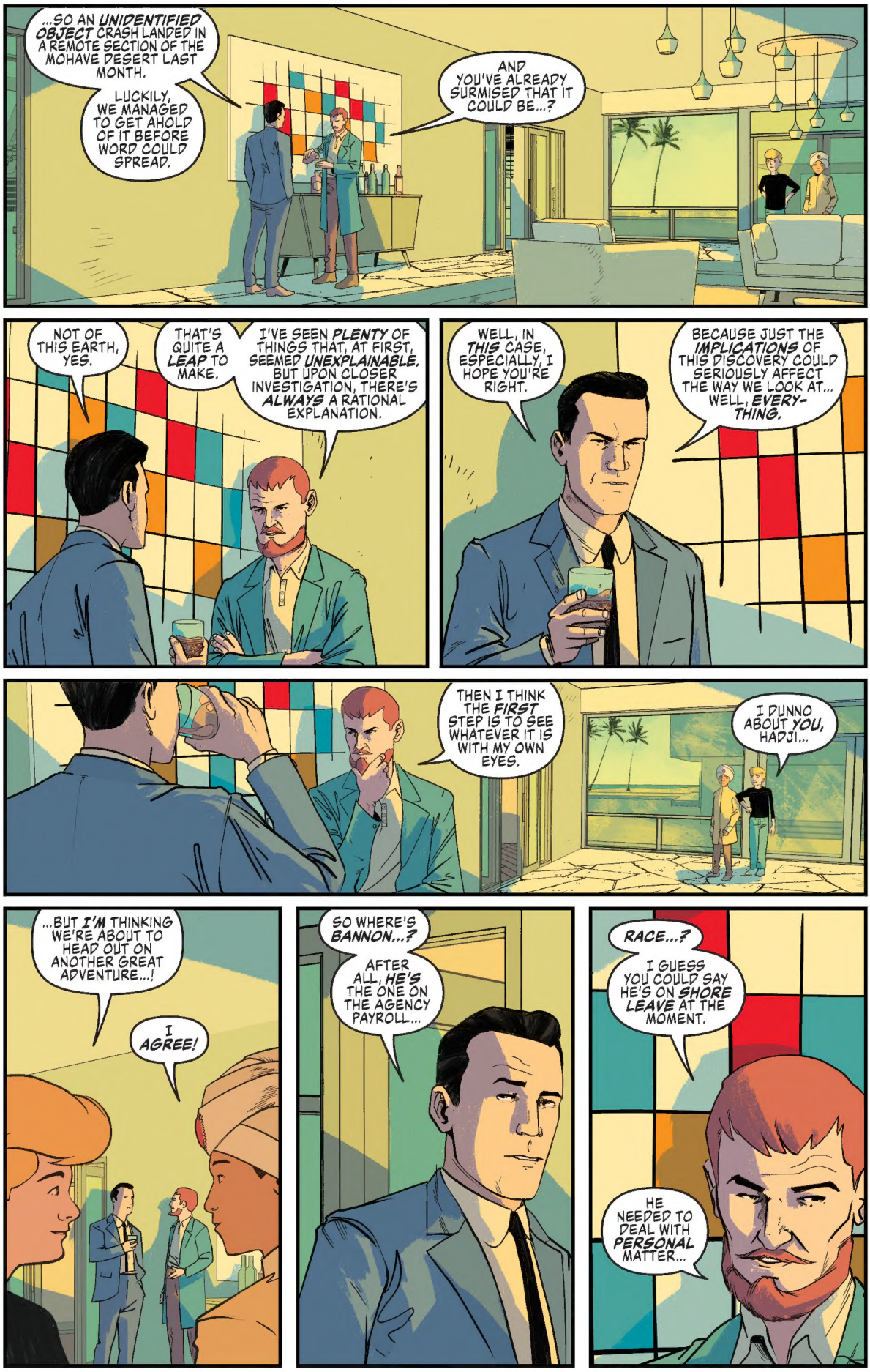
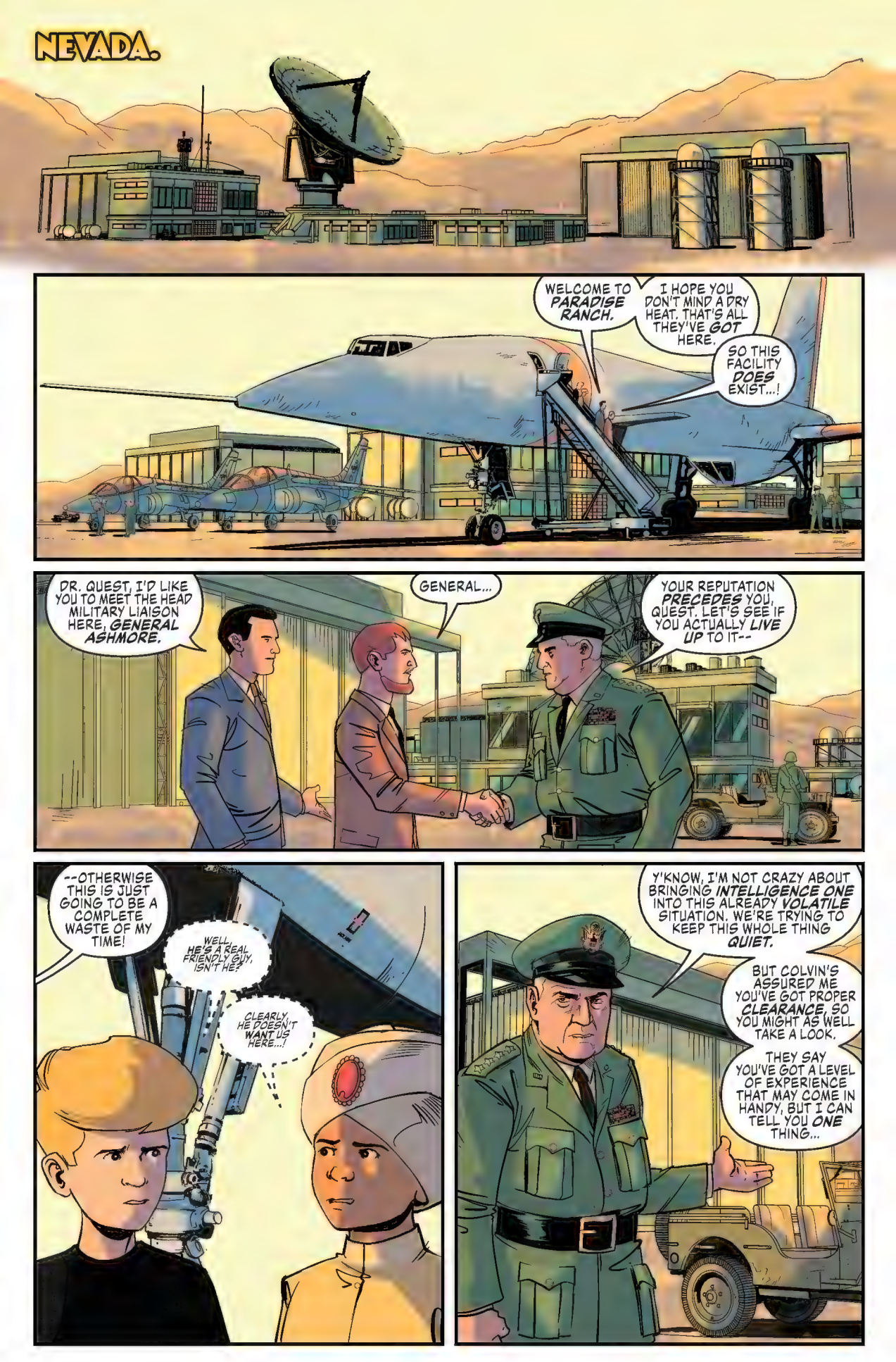

PALM KEY; 1965:
DICTATING: BENTON QUEST PERSONAL JOURNAL ENTRY...
...I'VE SPENT THE LAST FEW WEEKS SINCE OUR VISIT TO THE FUTURE* IN EXTENSIVE ANALYSIS MODE.
*SEE JONNY QUEST #1-5
THE SPECIFIC COMPONENTS WE MODIFIED IN ORDER TO REPAIR MY QUANTUM COUNTER ARE THE ONLY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF OUR JOURNEY. THEY DEMAND EXTENSIVE AND THOUGHTFUL STUDY.
UNFORTUNATELY, OUR RETURN TRIP ENDED UP BURNING OUT THE MAJORITY OF THE COMPONENTS, RENDERING THEM PRACTICALLY USELESS.
HOWEVER, THE SPECIFIC CIRCUIT THAT ACTED ESSENTIALLY AS A POWER AMPLIFIER FOR MY COUNTER'S PRIMARY IGNITION SYSTEMS...
...IS THE ONLY ONE THAT SURVIVED.
HEY, DAD!
STILL FOOLING AROUND WITH THOSE DOOHICKEYS?
I SUPPOSE SO. I WONDER IF WE'LL EVER FIND A SAFE USE--IN OUR TIME--FOR THIS BIT OF FUTURE TECHNOLOGY...
WELL, MAYBE NOW YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREAK AND--
HOLD ON... YOUR HEAR THAT?
ARE WE EXPECTING COMPANY...?

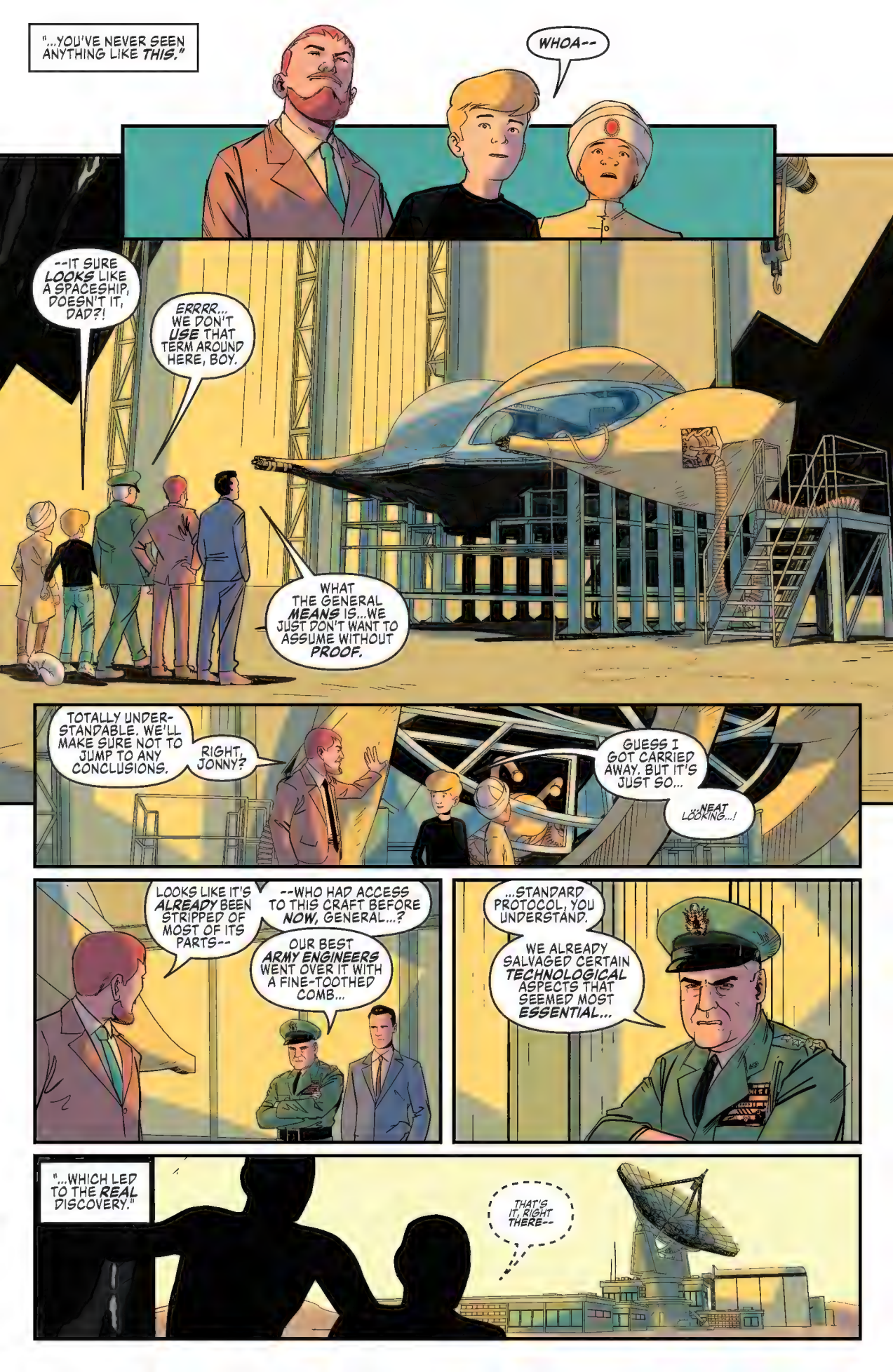

BANDIT--LOOK!
WE HAVE A VISITOR ARRIVING!
ARF ARF
CORVIN.
GOOD TO SEE YOU.
TO WHAT DO WE OWE THE PLEASURE?
WELL, I'D LOVE TO SAY I'M HERE TO WORK ON MY TAN, DR. QUEST...
...UNFORTUNATELY I'M HERE ON BUSINESS.
AND WE COULDN'T RISK SIMPLY TALKING OVER THE PHONE. THESE DAYS YOU NEVER KNOW WHO MIGHT BE EAVES-DROPPING...
IT'S THAT SERIOUS, EH?
YOU COULD SAY THAT.
WE'VE GOT A SITUATION BREWING IN NEVADA THAT WE NEED YOUR EXPERTISE ON. NOW, IT'S NOT IN MY NATURE TO SPECULATE...
...BUT THERE'S TALK THAT IT COULD BE ALIEN IN NATURE.
WOW...!
YOU'D BETTER COME INSIDE...

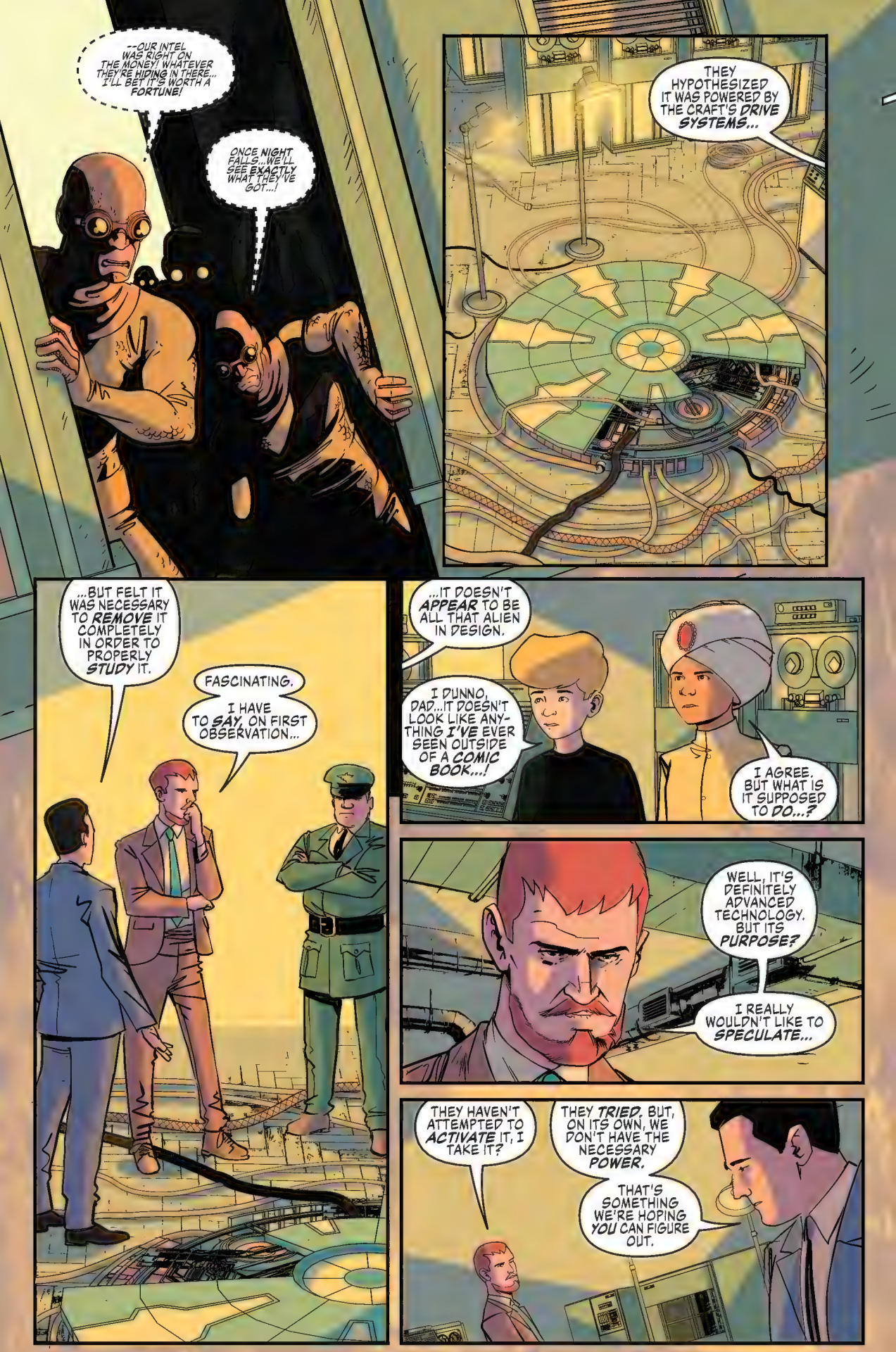

...SO AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT CRASH LANDED IN A REMOTE SECTION OF THE MOHAVE DESERT LAST MONTH.
LUCKILY, WE MANAGED TO GET AHOLD OF IT BEFORE WORD COULD SPREAD.
AND YOU'VE ALREADY SURMISED THAT IT COULD BE...?
NOT OF THIS EARTH, YES.
THAT'S QUITE A LEAP TO MAKE.
I'VE SEEN PLENTY OF THINGS THAT, AT FIRST, SEEMED UNEXPLAINABLE. BUT UPON CLOSER INVESTIGATION, THERE'S ALWAYS A RATIONAL EXPLANATION.
WELL, IN THIS CASE, ESPECIALLY, I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT.
BECAUSE JUST THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS DISCOVERY COULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT THE WAY WE LOOK AT... WELL, EVERYTHING.
THEN I THINK THE FIRST STEP IS TO SEE WHATEVER IT IS WITH MY OWN EYES.
I DUNNO ABOUT YOU, HADJI...
...BUT I'M THINKING WE'RE ABOUT TO HEAD OUT ON ANOTHER GREAT ADVENTURE...!
I AGREE!
SO WHERE'S BANNON...?
AFTER ALL, HE'S THE ONE ON THE AGENCY PAYROLL...
RACE...?
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY HE'S ON SHORE LEAVE AT THE MOMENT.
HE NEEDED TO DEAL WITH PERSONAL MATTER...

MARRAKESH:
INVESTIGATING STRANGE PHENOMENA AROUND THE GLOBE, THE QUEST FAMILY HAS LITERALLY SEEN IT ALL. HAVING RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AN ADVENTURE SIXTY YEARS INTO THE FUTURE, THEIR TRIP HAS LEFT LINGERING QUESTIONS...QUESTIONS THAT DEMAND ANSWERS...
SPACE QUEST
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
JOE CASEY
WRITER
SEBASTIÁN PÍRIZ
ARTIST
LORENZO SCARAMELLA
COLORS
TAYLOR ESPOSITO
LETTERS
MATT IDELSON
EDITOR
SPECIAL THANKS TO
JOSH ANDERSON, VICTORIA SELOVER & MEGAN LOGAN
JONNY QUEST
DR. BENTON QUEST
"RACE" BANNON
HADJI
BANDIT

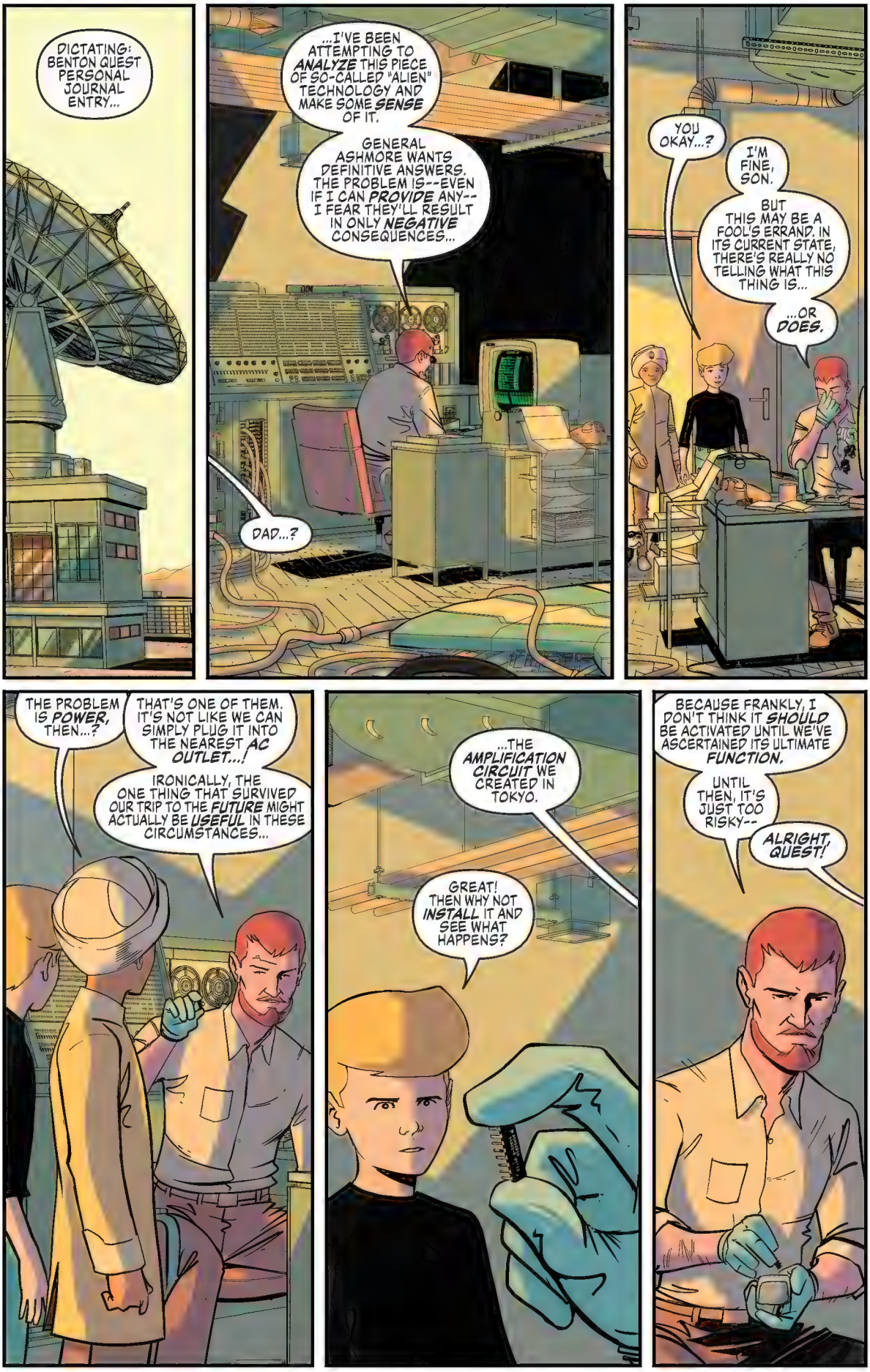
HONESTLY, MISTER BANNON...
...YOU COME ALL THIS WAY FOR A FACE-TO-FACE WITH ME?
I'M FLATTERED.
NO NEED FOR FORMALITIES.
I'M NOT HERE ON BUSINESS.
IN THAT CASE, YOU ALREADY HAD MY INTEREST...
...BUT NOW YOU HAVE MY ATTENTION.
WE'VE NEVER SHARED MOROCCO, HAVE WE?
LISTEN, JADE... ONE OF MY RECENT ESCAPADES ENDED UP BEING A BIT REVEALING...
I ASSUME YOU'RE REFERRING TO YOUR RECENT TEMPORAL JAUNT...
OUT OF THE SELECT FEW OF US WHO HEARD ABOUT IT...MOST ASSUMED IT WAS JUST A RUMOR, THAT TIME TRAVEL WAS A SCIENTIFIC IMPOSSIBILITY.
BUT I SUSPECTED DIFFERENTLY.
WELL, YES... IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED.
I SAW A BIT OF THE FUTURE, JADE.
THAT'S... AH...WHAT I'M HERE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT...

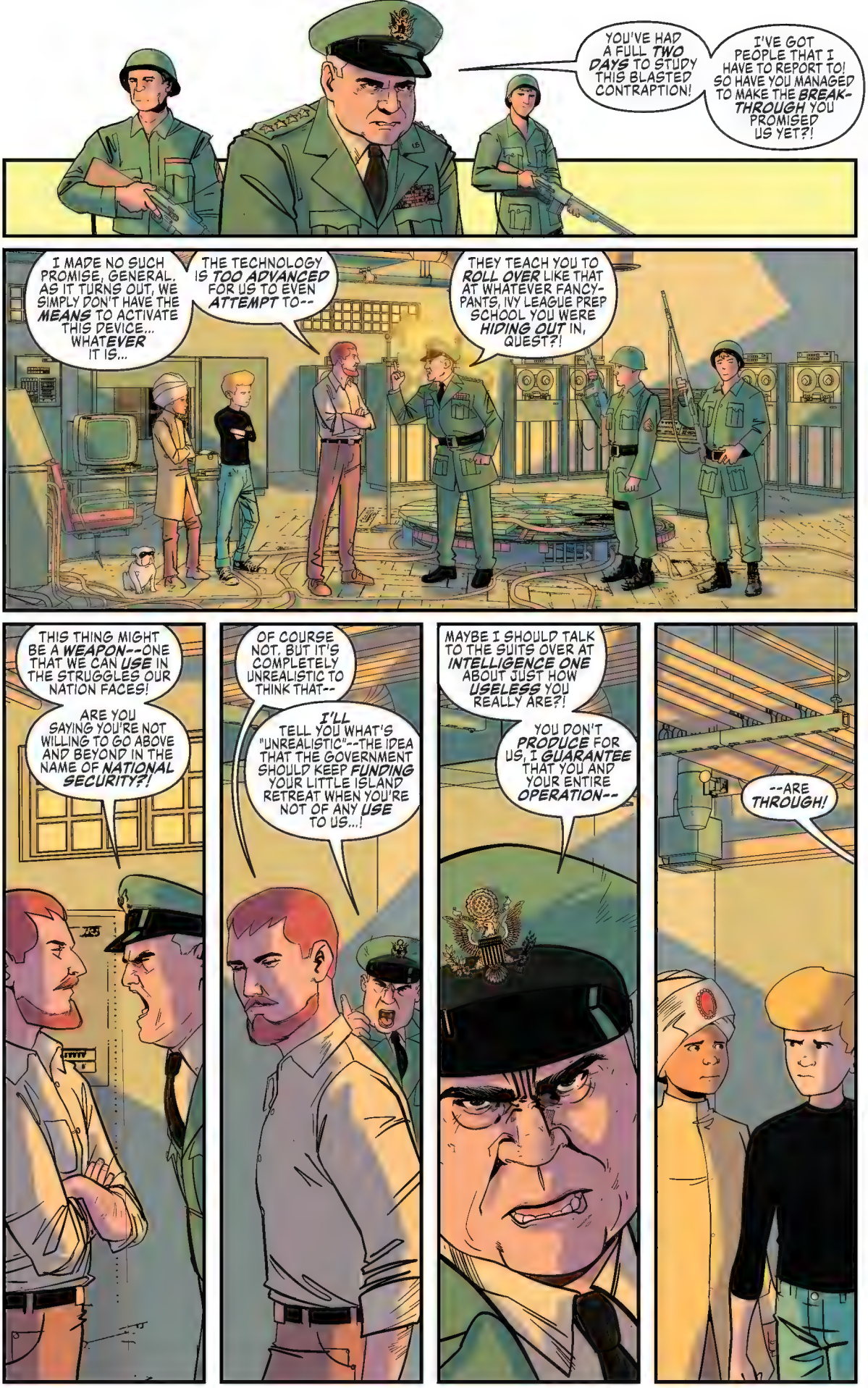

NEVADA.
WELCOME TO PARADISE RANCH.
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND A DRY HEAT. THAT'S ALL THEY'VE GOT HERE.
SO THIS FACILITY DOES EXIST...!
DR. QUEST, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET THE HEAD MILITARY LIAISON HERE, GENERAL ASHMORE.
GENERAL...
YOUR REPUTATION PRECEDES YOU, QUEST. LET'S SEE IF YOU ACTUALLY LIVE UP TO IT--
--OTHERWISE THIS IS JUST GOING TO BE A COMPLETE WASTE OF MY TIME!
WELL, HE'S A REAL FRIENDLY GUY, ISN'T HE?
CLEARLY, HE DOESN'T WANT US HERE...!
Y'KNOW, I'M NOT CRAZY ABOUT BRINGING INTELLIGENCE ONE INTO THIS ALREADY VOLATILE SITUATION. WE'RE TRYING TO KEEP THIS WHOLE THING QUIET.
BUT COLVIN'S ASSURED ME YOU'VE GOT PROPER CLEARANCE, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL TAKE A LOOK.
THEY SAY YOU'VE GOT A LEVEL OF EXPERIENCE THAT MAY COME IN HANDY, BUT I CAN TELL YOU ONE THING...


"...YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE *THIS*."
WHOA--
--IT SURE *LOOKS* LIKE A SPACESHIP, DOESN'T IT, DAD?!
ERRRR... WE DON'T *USE* THAT TERM AROUND HERE, BOY.
WHAT THE GENERAL *MEANS* IS...WE JUST DON'T WANT TO ASSUME WITHOUT *PROOF*.
TOTALLY UNDERSTANDABLE. WE'LL MAKE SURE NOT TO JUMP TO ANY CONCLUSIONS.
RIGHT, JONNY?
GUESS I GOT CARRIED AWAY. BUT IT'S JUST SO...
...NEAT LOOKING...!
LOOKS LIKE IT'S *ALREADY* BEEN STRIPPED OF MOST OF ITS PARTS--
--WHO HAD ACCESS TO THIS CRAFT BEFORE *NOW*, GENERAL...?
OUR BEST *ARMY ENGINEERS* WENT OVER IT WITH A FINE-TOOTHED COMB...
...STANDARD PROTOCOL, YOU UNDERSTAND.
WE ALREADY SALVAGED CERTAIN *TECHNOLOGICAL* ASPECTS THAT SEEMED MOST *ESSENTIAL*...
"...WHICH LED TO THE *REAL* DISCOVERY."
THAT'S IT, RIGHT THERE--


--OUR INTEL WAS RIGHT ON THE MONEY! WHATEVER THEY'RE HIDING IN THERE... I'LL BET IT'S WORTH A FORTUNE!
ONCE NIGHT FALLS...WE'LL SEE EXACTLY WHAT THEY'VE GOT...!
THEY HYPOTHESIZED IT WAS POWERED BY THE CRAFT'S DRIVE SYSTEMS...
...BUT FELT IT WAS NECESSARY TO REMOVE IT COMPLETELY IN ORDER TO PROPERLY STUDY IT.
FASCINATING. I HAVE TO SAY, ON FIRST OBSERVATION...
...IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE ALL THAT ALIEN IN DESIGN.
I DUNNO, DAD...IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN OUTSIDE OF A COMIC BOOK...!
I AGREE. BUT WHAT IS IT SUPPOSED TO DO...?
WELL, IT'S DEFINITELY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY. BUT ITS PURPOSE?
I REALLY WOULDN'T LIKE TO SPECULATE...
THEY HAVEN'T ATTEMPTED TO ACTIVATE IT, I TAKE IT?
THEY TRIED. BUT, ON ITS OWN, WE DON'T HAVE THE NECESSARY POWER.
THAT'S SOMETHING WE'RE HOPING YOU CAN FIGURE OUT.

GREAT VIEW...
...YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT MARRAKESH AT NIGHT, CAN YOU?
NOT THIS TIME OF YEAR.
NOW, RACE...ARE YOU EVER GOING TO REVEAL THE PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT...
...OR DO I HAVE TO GUESS WHILE YOU CONTINUE YOUR STAMMERING?
ALRIGHT, JADE...
...SO, LIKE I SAID, I HAPPENED TO GET A GLIMPSE OF THE ROAD AHEAD.
IN PARTICULAR, I MET SOMEONE THAT I THINK WAS RATHER SIGNIFICANT...TO BOTH OF US.
YOU'RE TALKING IN RIDDLES.
BUT IF YOU SAW SOMETHING IN YOUR FUTURE THAT YOU FEEL YOU MUST RELAY TO ME, I CAUTION YOU TO TREAD LIGHTLY...
I KNOW I'M ON SHAKY GROUND HERE.
I WENT BACK AND FORTH ON THIS. AND I THOUGHT FOR SURE I SHOULD TELL YOU WHAT I SAW... WHO I SAW...
BUT NOW THAT I'M LOOKING INTO YOUR EYES...
...I'M HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS.
MAYBE...I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE...!


DICTATING: BENTON QUEST PERSONAL JOURNAL ENTRY...
...I'VE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO ANALYZE THIS PIECE OF SO-CALLED "ALIEN" TECHNOLOGY AND MAKE SOME SENSE OF IT.
GENERAL ASHMORE WANTS DEFINITIVE ANSWERS. THE PROBLEM IS--EVEN IF I CAN PROVIDE ANY--I FEAR THEY'LL RESULT IN ONLY NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES...
DAD...?
YOU OKAY...?
I'M FINE, SON.
BUT THIS MAY BE A FOOL'S ERRAND. IN ITS CURRENT STATE, THERE'S REALLY NO TELLING WHAT THIS THING IS...
...OR DOES.
THE PROBLEM IS POWER, THEN...?
THAT'S ONE OF THEM. IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN SIMPLY PLUG IT INTO THE NEAREST AC OUTLET...!
IRONICALLY, THE ONE THING THAT SURVIVED OUR TRIP TO THE FUTURE MIGHT ACTUALLY BE USEFUL IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES...
...THE AMPLIFICATION CIRCUIT WE CREATED IN TOKYO.
GREAT! THEN WHY NOT INSTALL IT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS?
BECAUSE FRANKLY, I DON'T THINK IT SHOULD BE ACTIVATED UNTIL WE'VE ASCERTAINED ITS ULTIMATE FUNCTION.
UNTIL THEN, IT'S JUST TOO RISKY--
ALRIGHT, QUEST!


YOU'VE HAD A FULL TWO DAYS TO STUDY THIS BLASTED CONTRAPTION!
I'VE GOT PEOPLE THAT I HAVE TO REPORT TO! SO HAVE YOU MANAGED TO MAKE THE BREAK-THROUGH YOU PROMISED US YET?!
I MADE NO SUCH PROMISE, GENERAL. AS IT TURNS OUT, WE SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THE MEANS TO ACTIVATE THIS DEVICE... WHATEVER IT IS...
THE TECHNOLOGY IS TOO ADVANCED FOR US TO EVEN ATTEMPT TO--
THEY TEACH YOU TO ROLL OVER LIKE THAT AT WHATEVER FANCY-PANTS, IVY LEAGUE PREP SCHOOL YOU WERE HIDING OUT IN, QUEST?!
THIS THING MIGHT BE A WEAPON--ONE THAT WE CAN USE IN THE STRUGGLES OUR NATION FACES!
ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL SECURITY?!
OF COURSE NOT. BUT IT'S COMPLETELY UNREALISTIC TO THINK THAT--
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT'S "UNREALISTIC"--THE IDEA THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD KEEP FUNDING YOUR LITTLE ISLAND RETREAT WHEN YOU'RE NOT OF ANY USE TO US...!
MAYBE I SHOULD TALK TO THE SUITS OVER AT INTELLIGENCE ONE ABOUT JUST HOW USELESS YOU REALLY ARE?!
YOU DON'T PRODUCE FOR US, I GUARANTEE THAT YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE OPERATION--
--ARE THROUGH!

THAT NIGHT:
UN1075
I REALLY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, JONNY...!
YOU HEARD THE GENERAL-- WE DON'T WANT DAD TO LOSE HIS JOB, DO WE?
BUT YOU HEARD DR. QUEST... HE WAS ADAMANT THAT IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS...
GGRRRWL
QUIET, BANDIT!
I KNOW. AND I WOULDN'T NORMALLY DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS. BUT IF IT HELPS DAD, THEN I THINK IT'S WORTH TRYING.
BESIDES... THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU JUST GOTTA TAKE A RISK...!

JONNY!
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?
NEVER MIND THAT. THERE'S GOTTA BE A REASON DAD BROUGHT THIS WITH HIM...
...REMEMBER, THE COMPONENT FROM FUKUNAGA?
DAD CALLED IT AN "AMPLIFICATION CIRCUIT", DIDN'T HE?
I JUST HAVE A FEELING THAT THIS IS GOING TO WORK...
...THERE WE GO!
S-SEE...? I TOLD YOU...!
YOU WERE RIGHT, JONNY! THE MECHANISM IS ACTIVE--
--BUT WHAT'S IT DOING?!
I... HAVE NO IDEA...!
RAWF
RAWF
RAWF

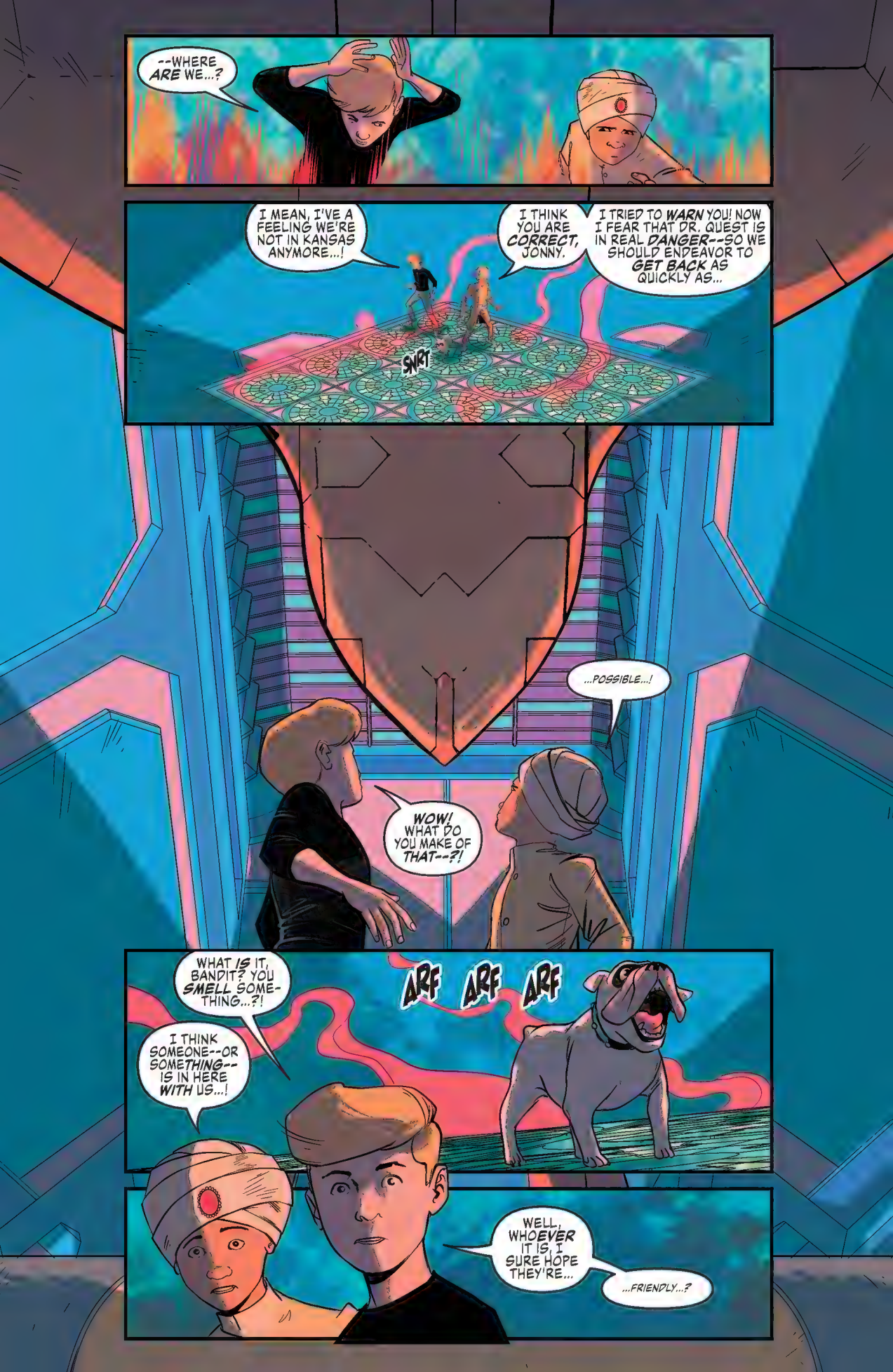
WHO'RE THESE GUYS?!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR--
--THEY'RE NOT HERE TO MAKE FRIENDS!
RUN FOR IT, HADJI--!
JONNY--
--WHAT'S HAPPENING--?!
I DON'T KNOW! BUT IT FEELS--

WHAT WAS THAT?!
SOME KIND OF MAGICIAN'S TRICK MEANT TO--
HOLY--!
WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?!
LET'S JUST GET OUTTA HERE--

ΠΑΥΣΕ
ΠΑΥΣΕ
ΠΑΥΣΕ

GLEEEEK--!
II-ЯUTAЯTN
II-ЯONAMA

THERE YOU ARE. I HAD A FEELING I WAS BEING WATCHED...
...BUT CERTAINLY NOT BY SOMEONE SO TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED...!
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO COME CLEAN AS TO WHAT YOU'RE--
ΙΧΙΥΨ
ΑΓΡΟΝΟΜΟΣ ΕΥΠΟΥ ΘΕΟΣΔΕΙΣ ΑΠ
WHAT IN THE WORLD?! WHAT LANGUAGE ARE YOU--
--ΕΤ ΕΟΚΙΙ DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID THAT--
BUT YOUR SONIC DEVICE... IT NULLIFIED THE INVISO-POWER BUILT INTO OUR BELTS...
SQUEEK
YOU CAN SPEAK ENGLISH ALL OF A SUDDEN? HOW--
OUR UNIFORMS...EQUIPPED WITH LINGUISTIC TRANSLATORS... THEY CAN SYNTHESIZE ANY ALIEN LANGUAGE...OR EVEN PRIMITIVE ENGLISH LIKE YOURS...
PLEASE... WHERE ARE WE...?
YOU'RE ON EARTH.
WAIT... IF YOU'RE HERE...
...WHERE ARE THE BOYS?!
H-HEY HADJI--


--WHERE ARE WE...?
I MEAN, I'VE A FEELING WE'RE NOT IN KANSAS ANYMORE...!
I THINK YOU ARE CORRECT, JONNY.
I TRIED TO WARN YOU! NOW I FEAR THAT DR. QUEST IS IN REAL DANGER--SO WE SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO GET BACK AS QUICKLY AS...
SNRT
...POSSIBLE...!
WOW! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT--?!
WHAT IS IT, BANDIT? YOU SMELL SOMETHING...?!
I THINK SOMEONE--OR SOMETHING--IS IN HERE WITH US...!
ARF ARF ARF
WELL, WHOEVER IT IS, I SURE HOPE THEY'RE...
...FRIENDLY...?

UH OH...
THE COSMIC CROSSOVER CONTINUES NEXT MONTH!

NEXT ISSUE

LOST IN SPACE - AND TIME!

Following a series of improbable events in the mysterious hangers of Area 51, Jonny Quest and Hadji are flung far into the future - and face to face with an exasperated Space Ghost!

Taking their place in 1960s Nevada, Jan and Jace find themselves trespassing on the most top-secret base in the entire world. Luckily, Dr. Quest is on hand to help them figure out what caused this anomalous temporal displacement - and, more important, how they might reverse it. But that's only if they can stay one step ahead of the military, who have a lot of questions of their own!

The ace investigative team of JOE CASEY and SEBASTIAN PIRIZ uncover the shocking facts behind the official story in Space Ghost/Jonny Quest: Space Quest #2 - with special coverage provided by MARK SPEARS, JOSHUA MIDDLETON, DERRICK CHEW, BEN OLIVER, and CHAD HARDIN!

THE ULTIMATE CROSSOVER OF CARTOON CLASSICS! WRITER PAULINA GANUCHEAU BREAKS IT DOWN

Paulina, this is a really exciting crossover, and we're curious to hear about your history with both of these beloved franchises. Did you grow up with either the *ThunderCats* or *The Powerpuff Girls*, or did you dive into their classic media later in life?

It is so cool! Definitely fulfilling multiple childhood fantasies right now. I loved both shows growing up. Cartoon Network started re-airing *ThundterCats* on *Toonami* around the same time that *The Powerpuff Girls* premiered, so as a cartoon-obsessed child you know they had my number. Which is funny to think about, honestly. Who knew I'd be here writing both of them together in a story 20-some years later?

As the debut artist on the title, you were significantly involved in our flagship *The Powerpuff Girls* series. Then you became one of the writers on the book, as well as doing a spinoff special that you collaborated on with your sister — not to mention making some gorgeous covers. How exciting is it to continue your contributions to the franchise?

It's truly an honor. There's something so special about *The Powerpuff Girls*. I know some of it is nostalgia and how much they shaped me growing up, but I can so easily find my voice as a creative and a writer when I'm telling their stories. It just all really clicks. I love them and I'm very grateful for this world Craig McCracken created.

For the diehard fans who did get the chance to catch your previous PPG gems, if we squint can we expect to see any interesting connections or recurring themes between those issues and this new series?

Oh, good question! I think with any artist/writer working on the same property for an extended amount of time, you can expect some repeat themes no matter what, because we all have that stack of things we love to do, haha — so yeah, probably! Maybe now I'll make sure to put an easter egg in, though.

Bringing in the *ThunderCats* crew for the crossover really expands your cast here. How has it been getting into their voices through your writing, bouncing them off of Bubbles, Blossom, and Buttercup, and do you have favorite 'Cat so far?

Honestly, they mesh way better than I would have ever expected. I think the classic stoic, slightly campy writing of the *ThunderCats* works so well against the "modern," often sarcastic and quippy PPGs. The jokes almost write themselves. It also collectively brings so much heart to the whole journey. My favorite T-Cats growing up were Panthro and Cheetara, but with this new adventure I'm really loving Tygra! He gets so much time to shine in this story traveling with the girls, and it's honestly a hoot.

Many fans who have followed your career know you a lot for your artwork, though you've also really been expanding and flexing your skills as a writer for several years. Given that multitalented background, how is it working with another artist like Coleman Engle to bring your scripts to the page? Do you feel you are particularly well-equipped to write comics with that kind of experience?

Coleman Engle is one of the most talented comics creators out there, so I'd literally trust him with anything, creative-wise. Working with him has been such a treasure. I think we mesh really well together, and I always love seeing his choices with my script direction. As far as now writing more comics in my career, I think it was such a natural progression of what I was already doing as a sequential artist. When drawing comics, I'm making all these directorial decisions on the page as I go, so I think when I finally made that leap to scripting myself it came quicker than I expected. Also, being an artist has kind of given me a leg up on what I should expect from the artist I'm working with in the script direction. I have proof in the form of a text from Coleman in one instance of him thanking me for character blocking direction in a script that made things a lot easier, and I will hold onto that forever with pride, haha.

Can you tease fans a bit — without major spoilers — about whether or not there are any other exciting characters from the mythos of either *ThunderCats* or *The Powerpuff Girls* who we'll get to see in this historic crossover?

I don't want to give anything away, but there are definitely a slew of fan favorites that show up for the ride. Also, a li'l teaser: the finale has a big payoff moment you'll never forget!

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COVER GALLERY

COVER A
ART BY
MARK SPEARS

COVER B
ART BY
JOSHUA MIDDLETON

COVER C
ART BY
DEREK CHEW

COVER D
ART BY
BEN OLIVER

COVER E
ART BY CHAD HARDIN
COLORS BY CHUCK OBACH

COVER F
FOIL COVER ART BY
MARK SPEARS

COVER G
FOIL COVER
VIRGIN ART BY
MARK SPEARS

COVER H
BLANK AUTHENTIX

COVER I
PERMIUM METAL
VIRGIN ART BY
JOSHUA MIDDLETON

COVER J
LIMITED EDITION
VIRGIN ART BY
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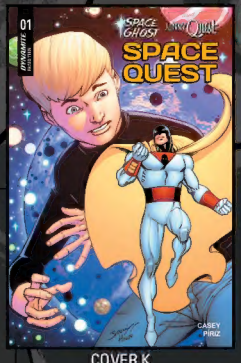

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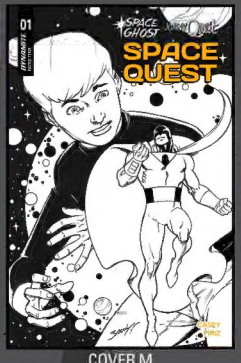

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